In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7-12, without prejudice. The status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Original) A signal processing method utilizing a partial response to record information on a medium and then regenerate the information from the medium, wherein

a regeneration signal from the medium is subjected to an equalizing process including the convolution of

(k-s·D)

where D: one (1) bit delay operator, and

k, s: positive integer, $k \neq s$.

2. (Original) The signal processing method according to claim 1, wherein the information is decoded from the equalized signal by use of maximum-likelihood detection.

3. (Original) A signal processing circuit utilizing a partial response to record information on a medium through a recording system and regenerate the information from the medium through a regenerating system, wherein

the regenerating system includes an equalizer subjecting a regeneration signal from the medium to the convolution of

(k-s·D)

where D: one (1) bit delay operator, and

k, s: positive integer, $k \neq s$.

4. (Original) The signal processing circuit according to claim 3, wherein it comprises a maximum-likelihood detector which decodes the information from an output signal of the equalizer by use of maximum-likelihood detection.

5. (Original) A signal recording/regenerating apparatus utilizing a partial response to record information on a medium through a recording system and regenerate the information from the medium through a regenerating system, wherein

the regenerating system includes an equalizer subjecting a regeneration signal from the medium to the convolution of

(k-s·D)

where D: one (1) bit delay operator, and

k, s: positive integer, $k \neq s$.

6. (Original) The signal recording/regenerating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein it comprises a maximum-likelihood detector which decodes the information from an output signal of the equalizer by use of maximum-likelihood detection.

7-12. (Canceled).